



# ALBERTA CHESS REPORT



A Newsletter Published By The Alberta Chess Association  
November 1996 Vol.21, No.5

## CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP

By Arniel Frialde, with David Ottosen

The 1996 Canadian Closed Zonal was held in Toronto at the Tartu College. I arrived two days before the start of play, relatively late by the other players standards, most of whom had arrived at least a week before. We were billeted in the college dorms, which resembled Hub Mall at the University of Alberta; ie, a lot of international students crammed into a small space. The tournament promised to be quite interesting, as most of the usual favorites were attending, as well as some new players who were guaranteed to be dangerous (Eduardo Teodoro, Jan Teplitsky).

My preparation for the event had been sporadic; I had played a training match with Nigel Fullbrook, which I lost 4-2, and I had purchased some books at the Canadian Open, but overall, in a tournament like this, the players mindset is the most important thing. You have to approach each game knowing you have a chance to win, and not be intimidated by their title or their rating. Of course, you also have to play good moves! In general, I felt that most of these players play a lot of swisses, so they don't like to take risks; they sit back and punish your mistakes. Therefore, I chose to play simply and avoid creating weaknesses and force them to beat me, not to beat myself.

The first thing I did was to attend the player's meeting, where as you know (if you read *En Passant*), there was a minor dispute over the time controls for the tournament. We were told (for the first time) that we would be using a 2nd timecontrol of sudden death. This didn't make me too happy, as I had prepared mostly openings, expecting I could adjourn my endgames and work them out then! However, I also didn't have the resources some of my opponents did (ChessBase, more books, high level experience), so I wasn't too unhappy that both of us would just have to sit down and work it out at the board. Besides, the players knew that the organizers had been generous in even agreeing to host the tournament, and tried to tone down complaints out of respect for this.

**Round 1:** I played **IM Nickoloff**. He has changed a lot since the last time I saw him, he is much more .. how to put it .. sober. However, he still doesn't mind speedy draws if he doesn't get a position he likes out of the opening, and this was an example.

**Round 2:** I played **Simon Gravel** from Quebec, another newcomer to the Closed. We reached an ending where I had a more

centralized King and an outside passed pawn, but my lack of technique showed through and he was able to fight back to get a draw.

**Round 3:** Against **FM Leveille** (who beat Spraggett, Day, and Nickoloff in this tournament!), I was the exchange up, but he managed to trade off all the pawns. I tried to find a way to win with rook vs. knight for a while, but of course, he was able to draw without too much trouble.

**Round 4:** By now, I was getting a little draw crazy, so I decided to experiment a little in the opening against **FM Joe Horton**. We had a nice skirmish in the middlegame where we were both attacking each other. Horton was having a bad start (0-3), and seemed a little tentative, so we ended up having a draw.

**Round 5:** The story behind this game is interesting; I spent some days staying at **Eduardo Teodoro's** house, and his father told me that he was expecting his son to play for a win. Also, Eduardo was leading the tournament at this point with 3.5/4, so a lot of attention was focussed here. To add some more pressure, a fair number of Phillipinos were attending the tournament, and with only Eduardo and myself in the tournament from our country, this was considered an "unofficial" championship match.

A. Frialde - E. Teodoro

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 d5 3.g3 c5 4.Bg2 cxd4 5.O-O Nc6 6.Nxd4 Qb6 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.c4 e6 9.Nc3 Ba6 White stands well here. Development may look equal, but I have castled, which is always the most important part of development! 10.cxd5 Nxd5 11.Qa4 Rd8 12.Nxd5 exd5 13.Be3 My pieces are well placed to attack his weaknesses, especially on a7. 13... Qc7 14.Rfc1 Rd6 Of course, 14... Bxe2 loses to either 15.Rxc6 or 15.Re1 15.Rc2 Be7 16.Qd4 With a double attack on a7 and g7. I was happy to exchange queens against Teodoro, as he is a strong attacking player. Against such a player, exchanging queens is a strong psychological move, even if it doesn't win a pawn. 16... O-O 17.Qxa7 Qxa7 18.Bxa7 Re6 19.e3 Ra8 20.Bd4 Bd3 21.Rc3 Bc4 22.b3 Ba6 This ending is clearly favorable to White, but I misplay it. The best winning plan is to try to exchange the heavy pieces, as an extra pawn is much better in a double bishop ending than a double or single rook ending. 23.Bf1 Bb7 I have managed to take his bishop out of the game. If I can force rook trades, the badness of his bishop will become even more evident. 24.a4 h5 He

(Continued on page 4)

## CANADIAN WOMEN'S CLOSED

by Beatrice Wu

This year, the Canadian Women's Closed was held August 17-25 at the Tartu College in Toronto. Every evening, amidst the heat and noise of this bustling city, where young people rush out into the street to wash a traffic-light-halted car's windshield in hope of some spare change and where anything from rambutans to live miniature crabs are sold in street-side stands, we ten women adjourned to a basement hall to play chess.

Held in conjunction with the women's tournament was the Canadian Closed. I was pleasantly surprised to be able to recognize celebrated Canadian chess players such as Kevin Spraggett and Deen Hergott who had made earlier appearances in Calgary for the Canadian Open. Unfortunately, I did not play as well as I would have hoped, dropping more than a fair number to games to tactical blunders and finishing with a score of 2/9. The tournament was, despite this, a worthwhile experience.

This year saw the landmark victory of Johanne Charest over Nava Starr who has long dominated Canadian women's chess. (I found it rather ironic that the predetermined Women's Olympiad team does not include Johanne). I also had the incredibly enlightening experience of meeting a true lover of chess: one of the tournament directors, Miroslav Janes (pronounced along the lines of 'Yanesh'). He asserted that chess must indeed be "the most beautiful creation of the human mind" and that arriving in Canada, he was astounded by how relatively unimportant chess is to the nation. Back in his country in Eastern Europe, he told me, chess is an institution. Once a young player shows promise, he is taken by the system and provided with coaches, resources, everything necessary to hone and develop his skills. This is why, Mr. Janes said, Fischer is such a great man: because he did it all on his own. And he heartily respects Canadian chess players for similar roads taken.

Finally, I'd like to thank the ACA for its financial support, the organizer Mr. Ari Mendrinovs for transportation from and to the airport, and the Toronto Estonian Chess Club for giving me and the other players a souvenir krooni, a bill of Estonian money, the only currency in the world to feature a chess player--Paul Keres.

Here are some of my games.

S. Vujosevic-B. Wu

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Bf4 e6 4.e3 c5 5.c3 Nc6

(Continued on page 3)

The *Alberta Chess Report (ACR)* is published 5 times per year by the Alberta Chess Association. The Editor reserves the right to edit articles for brevity, clarity and levity. Uncredited articles are usually by the Editor; opinions expressed do not necessarily represent those of the ACA.

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**Membership fees**

ACA-senior \$5 per year.  
 ACA-junior \$3 per year  
 ACA-participating \$1 per year  
 Chess Federation Of Canada (CFC) membership includes ACA: senior-\$35, junior-\$23, participating-\$11. 'Junior' and 'Participating' memberships are only available to those 17 years of age or less (submit birth date). Participating members don't get *ACR* or *En Passant*. Provide player's full name, address and CFC number (if previous member). State if female. If sending info to ACA, phone # appreciated.

**Deadline for next issue: January 1, 1997**

Organizers of Events: Please send *ACR* details well in advance. Please include date, time, location, entry fee, and the organizer's hat size.

Articles can be submitted in MANY ways: give to either John or David; mail to the ACA mailbox; eMail to David at dottosen@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca or to John at 75477.3416@compuserve.com; however: the *ACR* editors do NOT subscribe to Jojo's Psychic Alliance, so mental telepathy is out (for now).

**Reminder to Tournament Directors**

The CFC requires a rating report to be submitted within 7 days after an event--you owe it to the players to send in rating and membership reports ASAP. Also, please send a written report to the *ACR*. Support your Alberta newsletter! Be warned: If you don't send something, we will write it ourselves with an excess of mockery of YOU! Report or be mocked!

*Message From The Editor*

Greetings, chess friends, I hope this day finds you happy, healthy and safely castled.

Not all articles submitted to the *ACR* are published. The most common reason for this is lack of space, as I am limited to 10 pages so as to get the best postal rate. Two other reasons submissions don't appear are because I made a mistake (forgot to include it, or lost it), or because they contain inappropriate material (usually I will edit and include such articles rather than discard them).

Basically, I add articles to the *ACR* in order of priority until the issue is full; everything remaining goes into the "overflow bin", in the hope that a future issue will have some room. The priority I assign to each article is based on my personal view of the purpose of the *ACR*. I follow the long-standing tradition of regarding the *ACR* as a newsletter. Consequently, news gets the highest priority. Next in priority are articles of historical importance. Lowest priority goes to everything else. I try to guess which articles the readers will find interesting and informative, as well as provide a wide variety of chess topics.

There is much overlap between these categories, of course, but generally articles are prioritized like this:

**News**

- information about ACA activities and projects, fund raising casinos, financial report, CFC activities of Alberta governors
- tournament reports
- schedule of upcoming events
- letters from readers

**Historical perspective**

- Alberta Championship tournament results and games
- Albertans in Canadian & World championships
- championship tournaments held in Alberta
- people profiles and obituaries

**Miscellaneous**

- games, stories (preferably non-fiction), personal milestones (first Expert or Master scalp), statistics, chess puzzles, any submission with an Alberta connection.

Comments about the *ACR* (or any other chess topic) are always welcome. Write to the ACA or talk to any member of the Board of Directors.

**Coming Next Issue...**

Battle of Alberta: Calgary against Edmonton, 12-player teams.  
Alberta Junior Championship: winner represents Alberta at the Nationals  
Cadet qualifiers: Northern and Southern regionals

**ACHIEVEMENT ACME**

*This list comprises the top-rated ACA members who live in Alberta.*

|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| Greg Huber.....         | 2365 |
| Rob Hawkes.....         | 2362 |
| John Ferrar.....        | 2314 |
| Nenad Ristovic.....     | 2307 |
| Arniel Frialde.....     | 2306 |
| Sasa Grumic.....        | 2267 |
| Jonathan Schaeffer..... | 2248 |
| Lev Gorelik.....        | 2248 |
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| Nigel Fullbrook.....    | 2243 |
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| Sardul Purewal.....     | 2215 |
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| Neil Sharp.....         | 2193 |
| Arthur Odachowski.....  | 2187 |
| Eugene Gibney.....      | 2162 |
| Gordon Campbell.....    | 2160 |
| Warrick Walker.....     | 2150 |
| Nandor Tot.....         | 2145 |
| Milan Rabljenovic.....  | 2145 |
| Jim Daniluk.....        | 2142 |
| Ante Zaradic.....       | 2139 |
| Ted Wilson.....         | 2132 |
| Michael Jorgensen.....  | 2126 |
| Brad Willis.....        | 2123 |
| John Parrott.....       | 2119 |
| Farzan Nazarian.....    | 2112 |
| Tedge Davies.....       | 2102 |
| Zoltan Baunok.....      | 2092 |
| Adam Wu.....            | 2074 |
| Leo Dangelapen.....     | 2070 |
| Dave Gomboc.....        | 2069 |
| Grant Brown.....        | 2067 |
| Hafiz Karmali.....      | 2064 |
| Chris Dartana.....      | 2059 |
| Wilf Lahrkamp.....      | 2056 |
| Paul Thibodeau.....     | 2052 |
| Chris Kuczaj.....       | 2050 |
| Geoff Newton.....       | 2040 |
| Barney Fegyverneki..... | 2039 |
| Walter Watson.....      | 2039 |
| Walter Zwirner.....     | 2034 |
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| Yngvi Bjornsson.....    | 2018 |
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| Danny Federkevic.....   | 2007 |
| Jim Flemming.....       | 2006 |
| Ford Wong.....          | 2005 |
| Tony Dy-Reyes.....      | 2001 |
| David Ottosen.....      | 2000 |

Errata: Please make these corrections in your copy of the last issue: page 1, column 2: there were 2 games on Sunday, not Saturday at the Open; page 2 ratings should have Rabljenovic at 2145, and were missing Paul Usselman at 2047; page 4, the game Milne - Yoos should have been Yoos - Milne; page 18 story titled "The Road..." should have been credited to Ford Wong.

## NEWS FROM THE ALBERTA CHESS ASSOCIATION

By Walter Watson, President

There seems to be a consensus that Albertan and Canadian chess are not attracting enough players. One thing we can do is encourage and support creative organizers in making tournaments attractive. Also, Grant Brown at the AGM made the excellent point that there is much promotional activity that all chess organizations can do, such as public posting of brochures. An issue that both the ACA and the CFC are struggling with is high membership fees discouraging new players. The CFC raised its membership fee this summer effective next January 1, but there are now resolutions before the governors to reverse that raise conditional on the tournament rating fees being raised by \$1.00 per player instead. Resolutions have also been introduced for discussion which would create a CFC

tournament membership of \$6.00 per tournament (or \$3.00 for juniors) lasting only during the tournament. The idea is to let casual players try out a chess tournament more cheaply. An ACA membership fee would be added to the CFC fee, and privileges would include a permanent CFC number and rating but no copy of the CFC magazine *En Passant*. Voting on the tournament membership resolution will not occur for a couple of months.

At the ACA's AGM, John Quiring advanced the possibility of a provincial Tournament Player's Club to let non-CFC members play tournament chess and obtain their own Alberta ratings. The yearly club membership fee of \$5 would be the same as that of the ACA, and the *Alberta Chess Report* would print the Club's ratings. Please discuss these issues with your nearest ACA board member. John's idea will be discussed at the

next ACA board meeting so we will soon be deciding whether to proceed. Board members are:

Edmonton - Peter Alderton (475-6768); Daryl Bertrand (486-5297); David Ottosen (425-1584); John Quiring (468-9173); Ford Wong (481-6474)

Red Deer - Neil Sharp (346-0420)

Calgary - Ken Bourassa (282-9419); Jim Daniluk (248-7456); Tedge Davies (277-0209); Art Milne (259-3182); Paul Usselman (282-0419); Walter Watson (277-5620)

Lethbridge - Grant Brown (381-0308)

Finally, I want to repeat something I said at the AGM. Len Steele retired this year as ACR editor and from almost all his chess responsibilities. (He is still ACA membership secretary). Len has devoted many years to chess administration from the club level to the national level, and we owe him a huge debt of thanks.

### ARTHUR G. SKEEL

1922-1996

Chess lost a gentleman on September 6, 1996, with the death of Art Skeel at age 74. Art was a mainstay of the Edmonton Chess Club for about 45 years, and was one of only three people ever named as an Honorary Member of the Club.

Art was born in England, and never quite lost that authoritative British accent. He was active in the Calgary Chess Club for about five years in the late 1940's, then moved to Edmonton in the early 1950's. As a player, he reached his peak strength before rating systems were well known or publicized, but his victory in the 1954 Alberta Open is compelling evidence of his strength. Even in his sixties and early seventies, Art was an A-class player and only recently dropped below 1800. He was a tournament director's dream: he showed up on time, paid his fees without complaint, played without any annoying habits, and was gracious in victory and defeat. And after the game, he would walk to the phone and call his wife. "Success", he would say, or "draw" or "loss", a one word conversation requesting his wife to come pick him up.

Art was involved in some capacity in the organization of chess for at least 30 years. He organized tournaments, ran the chess club, wrote articles for the local chess newsletters and served on the Executive of the Club. In the December 1968 issue of the Edmonton Chess Club bulletin, Art, who was the president, commented on the Club's success in promoting chess. "This is not the result of lucky circumstances .... it is due to our good fortune in having a number of people willing to devote themselves without compensation to the welfare of the game." It was certainly our good fortune that Art was himself such a man, and we miss him very much.

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**6.Bd3 Qb6** It looks awkward but I was thinking that the queen isn't really vulnerable here, it could support the center along the a7-f1 diagonal, it gains a tempo and maybe I could later try marching the a-pawn. **7.Qc1 Be7 8.Nbd2 O-O 9.h3** If 9.e4 cxd4 10.e5 dxc3 11.exf6 cxd2+ and if 11.Qxc3 d4 12.Qc1 Nd5 looks interesting. **9. ... Nh5 10.Bh2 f5** hoping to push f4 and undermine the White center. It does, however, weaken the dark squares. **11.O-O** Here if I were White, I may have tried 11.g4 and if 11. ... fxd4 12.hxg4 Nf6 13.Ne5 looks strong though Black doesn't have to capture the g-pawn. **11. ... Bd7 12. dxc5** Gives up the potential outpost at e5. **12. ... Bxc5 13.Nb3 Be7 14.c4 Nb4 15.Be2 Rfc8 16.Qd1 Ba4** Making it more difficult for her to kick my knight with 17.a3. **17.Nfd4 dxc4 18.Bxb5 cxb3 19.axb3 Bb5 20.Nxb5 Qxb5 21.Be2 Qe8** 21. ... Qb6 is probably better. **22.Be5** If 22.Rxa7 Rc2 23.Be5 Qc6, Black has some pressure but White has eliminated her queenside weakness and is up a pawn, albeit doubled. **22. ... Rd8 23.Qb1 Rd2 24.Bf3 Qb5 25.Bc3 Rd7 26.Rd1 Nd5 27.Bxd5 Rxd5 28.Qc2 a6 29.Rxd5 Qxd5 30.Rd1 Qc6 31.b4?** An oversight, perhaps thinking of 31.Qb3. This not only loses a pawn but allows simplification towards an endgame. **31. ... Bxb4 32.Rd3 Rc8 33.Qd2 Bxc3 34.Rxc3 Qe8 35.Rb3 Qc6 36.Rc3 Qe8 37.Rd3 Qb5 38.Rd7 Qc6 39.Qd4 e5 40.Qd5+ Qxd5 41.Rxd5 Rc1+ 42.Kh2 Rc2 43.Kg3** Better is to save the b pawn. Considering my endgame knowledge, White probably had drawing chances with the rooks still on the board. After **43. ... Rxb2**, the Black connected outside passers are winning. **43. ... Rxb2 44.Rxe5 Rb5 45.Rxb5 axb5 46.Kf3 Kf7 47.Ke2 Ke6 48.Kd3 Kd5 49.f3 h5 50.h4 g6 51.Kc3 Kc5 52.Kd3 b4 53.g3 b6 54.e4 fxe4+ 55.Kxe4 b3**

**56.Kd3 b2 57.Kc2 Kd4 58.g4 Ke3 59.gxh5 gxh5 60.Kxb2 Kxf3 0-1**

J. Charest-B. Wu

**1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 Nf6** Better is 3. ... e6 followed by Ne7. **4.Bg2 e6 5.d3 Be7 6.Be3 d5 7.Bf4 dxe4** If 7. ... e5 thinking 8.Bd2 d4 9.Ne2 O-O then 8.exd5 is not good for Black. But 7. ... d4 8.Ne2 e5 9.Bd2 is possible though the knight on f6 is not well placed for the anticipated 10.f4. **8.Nxe4 Nd5 9.Bd2 O-O 10.Ne2 Bd7 11.Nf4 Nxf4 12.Bxf4 e5 13.Be3 b6** Johanne's white squared bishop is strong and I wanted to get off this diagonal but in doing so, I relinquished control of these white squares. If 13. ... Qc7 14.f4 and this proves to be a wasted tempo. **14.f4 Rc8 15.O-O ef 16.Bxf4 Be6 17.Qh5 g6** To defuse the attack, I engineer a queen trade. This move does, however weaken the h8-a1 diagonal as White has easier access. **18.Qh6 Qd4+ 19.Kh1 Qg7 20.Qxg7+ Kxg7 21.Nd6 Bxd6 22.Bxd6 Re8 23.Rae1 Nb4 24.Rf2 Rcd8** Or 24. ... Nxa1 But 25.Ra1 threatening 26.b3 and infiltration on the 7th rank. If 25. ... Rcd8 26.Be5+ Kg8 27.Bf6 and then 28.b2. If 25. ... a5 26.Bb7 Rd8 27.Bc7 Rd7 28.Be5+ Kg8 29.Bc6. **25.Be5+ Kg8 26.Bf6 Rc8 27.a3 Bd5 28.Rfe2 Rxe2 29.Rxe2 Bxg2+ 30.KxB Nd5 31.Bg5 Kg7 32.Re5 Nc7 33.Re7 Ne6 34.Bd2 Nd4 35.c3 Nb3 36.Be3 Rd8 37.Rxa7 Rxd3 38.Bf4 Nd2 39.Be5+ Kf8 40.Bf6** And here I resigned, thinking: ...Ke8 41. Ra8+ Kd7 42. Rd8+. However, I could probably have moved 40. ... Re3 and been O.K.

B. Wu-E. Walker

**1.d4 d5 2.e3 Nf6 3.Bd3 e6 4.f4 e5 5.c3 e4 6.Bc2 Bd6 7.Nf3 Bd7 8.Nd2 Nc6 9.Ne5 b5 10.O-O a5 11.g4 h6 12.Qf3 Qe7 13.Rf2 O-O 14.Nf1 Rdf8 15.Ng3 Kb8 16.Qe2 Kb7 17.b3 Rb8 18.Rb1 Kc7 19.e4 Bxe5 20.dxe5 Ng8 21.Be3 Nd8 22.Rff1 Nb7 23.Rfd1 Be6 24.Qf2 Qd7 25.exd5 exd5 26.Bf5 Qe7 1-0**

(Continued from page 1)

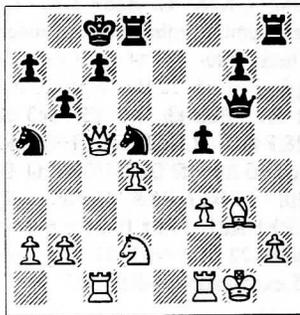
avoids back row mate problems ["fortochka"-ed], and prepares to try to exchange off some pawns to ease his defense. 25.Rc2 Avoiding possible skewers on the a1-h8 diagonal. 25.... h4 26.g4 Of course, keeping the game closed; there is still enough material on the board that if either king gets too open, there could be problems. 26. ... Re4 27.h3 Re6 28.a5 Ba6 Admitting that 23..Bb7 was a mistake. 29.Bxa6 Rxa6 30.Bb6 A natural move, blocking in Black's rook while freeing the white R/a1 for more productive use. 30. ... g6 31.Ra4 Kf8 32.Bc5 Ke8 33.Bxe7 Kxe7 34.Kf1 Kd6 35.b4 Re4 36.Ke2 f5 37.f3 Re8 38.Kd3 Rf8 39.f4 fxg4 40.hxg4 g5 41.f5 Rh8 Now it's clear I have misplayed it along the way. We both have kingside passed pawns but they are also both under control. 42.Rh2 Ke5 43.Rf2 Kf6 44.e4 dxe4+ 45.Kxe4 Rd8 46.Raa2 Ra7 47.Rad2 Rb8 48.Rd6+ Kf7 49.Rd4 Rab7 50.Ke5 Eduardo was in time pressure, so I decided to try to pile on the pressure with an aggressive king rush, and try for mating attacks. 50. ... h3 51.Rh2 Rxb4 52.Rd7+ Ke8 53.Rh7?? I have made progress and my position is winning again, until this. 53.Rg7 is still a win..oh well, there's still his time pressure. 53. ... R8b5+ 54.Kf6 Rxc4 55.Re2+ Kd8 56.a6 Rh4 57.a7 Ra5 58.Rg7 h2?? Time pressure tells!! 58. ... Rxa7 is a simple draw. 59.Rb2 Rxf5+ 60.Kxf5 1-0

**Round 6:** Livshits simply outprepared me; I didn't know the book line well enough to get out of the opening. Once he beat off my attack, it was a technical win for him.

**Round 7:** Hans Jung is a tremendous fighter. Every game, I would see that he was losing, but then he would fight back and somehow get a draw! This game was no exception.

A. Frialde - H. Jung

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.g3 Bg4 4.Bg2 Qd7 5.c4 e6 6.cxd5 exd5 7.Nc3 Nge7 I had forgotten the preparation and played the opening moves in the wrong order, so he is okay here. 8.O-O Bh3 9.Bxh3 Qxh3 10.Qb3 O-O-O 11.Bf4 f6 12.e4 dxe4 13.Nxe4 Nd5 Of course not 13. ... Nxd4 14.Nxd4 Rxd4 15.Nc5 b6 16.Bxc7 Kxc7 17.Ne6+ 14.Be3 h5 At this point, I realized I was in trouble, as I have no way to stop him from just blowing me away on the kingside, so I decided that it was time to complicate. 15.Rac1 Qg4 16.Nfd2 h4 17.f3



Qg6 18.Bf2 f5 19.Nc5 Na5 20.Qc2 hxg3 21.Bxg3 B x c 5 22.Qxc5 b6?? (Diagram) Now 22. ... Nc6 guards everything, and I'm kaput on the

kingside. 23.Qxc7+! He missed it! Now White is clearly winning. 23. ... Nxc7 24.Rxc7+ Kb8 25.Rxg7+ Qxg3+ 26.hxg3 Rd4 27.Rf2 I start playing too passively, and he gets some activity for his pieces. 27. ... Rhd8 28.Nf1 Nc4 29.Rc2 Ne5 30.Rcc7 Nd7 31.Rc2 Ne5 32.Rf7 f4 33.g4? 33.Rxf4! Rxf4 34.gxf4 is just a matter of technique, I didn't want to trade my rook on the 7th rank for one on the 4th, but his rook is actively placed, so it makes sense to trade it off. 33. ... Ne6 34.Kf2 34.Kg2 is a better move, as the kingside is a more natural way for the king to run up the board, at least as long as Black's rooks are patrolling the center. 34. ... Rd3 35.Rc3 Rxc3 36.bxc3 Rd3 37.Rf6 Ng5 38.Ke2 Rxc3 39.Rxf4 Rc2+ 40.Nd2 Rxa2 41.Rf5 Despite my mistakes, the position is still winning for White due to three factors: 1) more active king; 2) pawns further advanced; 3) White rook is better than the Black rook. 41. ... Ne6 42.Rf6 Ng5 43.Rf5 Ne6 44.Re5 Nf4+ 45.Ke3 Ng2 46.Kd3 a5 47.Nc4 Rf2 48.Ke4 Re2+ 49.Kd5 Rxe5 50.Kxe5 I felt the trade of rooks favoured White, as the Black rook had the potential to hassle my king. However, knight endings are notoriously difficult. 50. ... Kc7 51.g5 Nh4 52.Kf6? White should use both pawns, and run the king back to the queen-side. Two pawns should be able to get to the end by themselves against a knight. 52. ... a4 53.g6 Nxc6 54.Kxc6 b5 55.Na3 Kb6 56.f4 b4 57.Nc2 57.Nb1 is a better winning try, but still leads to a draw after 57.Nb1 a3 58.Nd2 Kb5 59.f5 Ka6. 57. ... b3 58.Na3 Kc5 59.f5 Kb4 60.f6 Kxa3 61.f7 Kb2 62.f8(Q) a3 63.Qf2+ Kb1 64.Qe1+ Kb2 65.Qd2+ Kb1 66.Qd1+ Kb2 67.Qd2+ Kb1 1/2-1/2

**Round 8:** At this point, I had 3.5/7, but the game with Jung was a real turning point. In a long event like this, it is very disappointing when you can't win won positions like I did in round 7. I was also feeling pressure from some of my friends that I was playing "dull games", so I decided to try to sharpen it up a little bit. Against FM Jack Yoos from Winnipeg, I tried to bluff him in the opening, but he didn't fall for it, and he turned it all back on me, crushing me.

**Round 9:** Against FM Gordon Taylor, I played 20 moves of book theory, although during the game, it was all new to me. I was wondering why he was moving so quickly...anyway, in the end, I attacked one way, he attacked the other, and he hit his target, while I didn't hit mine.

**Round 10:** Probably the best game played against me, Michael Schleifer simply outplayed me in the opening, built up an advantage, and pressed it home without difficulty.

**Round 11:** Entering the last 5 rounds, I still have to play all the top players: Teplitsky, Spraggett, Day and Hergott. Yoos helped me

prepare for this game against Teplitsky, but I suffered a common fate for specific preparation: my opponent varied from his usual repertoire. I was also starting to really feel the effects of playing top level master chess for two weeks in a row, with nothing else to concentrate on. Teplitsky beat off my play without much difficulty, and won.

**Round 12:** Day outplayed me totally with one of his usually strange openings. I fought hard to get back into the game, and had good drawing chances, but didn't have the energy to hold it.

**Round 13:** Hergott built up a good position out of the opening, but as I expected, he got into horrible time pressure and his position collapsed. I got out of the middlegame and managed to convert an endgame for an "IM Scalp". Interestingly, I was discussing my last five rounds schedule with Hergott in round 10, and I guaranteed him I would beat at least one of them.

**Round 14:** Spraggett. I desperately wanted to beat Spraggett, both to salvage the tournament for myself and to maybe get a mention in *En Passant* as something other than "the Alberta master who played hard, but didn't score well". He of course was also gunning for a win, as he had only half a point lead on Teplitsky. In an Old Indian defence, he managed to keep an iron grip on e5, shuffling pieces through that square to keep me on the defensive the whole game. He invited my pawns forward, then suddenly liquidated the position, and proved I was overextended.

**Round 15:** With the tournament essentially over for me, I decided to have a little fun with FM Fletcher Baragar, and tried for a "brilliance". However, as I stated in the opening, all of these masters love to play defensive chess, and Baragar found a defense, so I lost.

Overall, my impressions of the tournament were favourable. I found it difficult to maintain concentration and stamina for the whole tournament, and any slips against this level of opposition are ruthlessly punished. I think it was a more exciting tournament than usual, as even up until the last round, it wasn't clear who was going to win, which added a lot more tension to the last few rounds. Kevin Spraggett was a deserving winner, as his technique is at a higher plain than anyone else, and I would recommend deep study of his games to anyone who wants a greater understanding of the game: not openings, or middlegames, but just the GAME. He knows more about how to position his pieces, how to maneuver, and simply how to play than the rest of us.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the ACA for the financial assistance to attend this tournament, Nigel for helping me prepare with our match, and the organizers in Toronto for taking on the difficult task of running such a large event on such short notice.

## OVER/UNDER 1800

By Grant Brown, TD

Twenty players participated in the Over/Under 1800 tournament on the September 21-22 weekend. John Rajchel's consistent, solid play allowed him to blow through the field in the Under 1800 section with 4.5/5, including a first round win over top ranked Tom Lay. Tom recovered to capture second place with four straight wins. Third through sixth places went to Peter Alderton, Ken Bourassa, Jeff Huang, and Don MacFarlane with 2.5. Jmy Argue turned in a respectable performance for his first CFC tournament.

Warrick Walker led the Over 1800 section from start to finish, though he was caught and held in the third round by Arthur Odachowski. Both went undefeated with 4 out of 5. Third through fifth places were shared by Roy Yearwood (welcome back!), Leo Danglapen, and junior Nathan McLean with 3.

L. Danglapen - R. Yearwood

Notes by Yearwood

**1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6 3.Nf3 f5** I first heard of this variation at the 1996 Canadian Open. Tedge Davies was having a conversation with someone and happened to mention the moves up to 3. ... f5. **4.exf5** A couple of examples to illustrate the potential in Black's position: Harkes - Yearwood: 1.e4 e5 2.f4 Nc6 3.Nf3 f5!? Black's third was greeted with a not unjustified, contemptuous snort and exclamation THIS!! 4.Bc4 fxe4 5.Nxe5 d5 6.Qh5+ g6 7.Nxg6 Nf6 8.Qg5 hxg6 9.Qxg6+ Ke7 and Black can look to future events with confidence. Game 2: 1.e4.e5 2.f4 Nc6 3.Nf3 f5 4.Bc4 fxe4 5.Nxe5 d5 6.Bb5 Nf6 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.Bxc6+ Kf7!? 9.Bxa8? Bg4! with advantage to Black. 4.exf5 is completely new to me. Other moves here are 4.Bc4 (Yoons), 4.d3 (Day), 4.d4 (Zaradic). **4. ... d6?!** Not in keeping with the spirit of the opening. 4...Bc5 with enormous complications is possible. The assessment of "unclear" seems apt, e.g. 4. ... Bc5 5.Nxe5 Nxe5 6.fxe5 (6.d4!?) Qh4+ or 5.fxe5 Nxe5!? 6.Qe2 d6 7.d4 Bxd4 8.Nxd4 Qh4+. The power line is 5.fxe5 Nxe5 6.Nxe5 Qh4+ 7.g3 Qe4+ 8.Qe2 Qxh1 9.Ng6+ Ne7 10.Nxh8 Kf8 11.Nc3! with advantage to White. **5.Bb5 Bxf5 6.O-O** 6.fxe5! dxe5 7.Bxc6+ bxc6 8.O-O Bc5+ 9.Kh1 Ne7 10.Nxe5 O-O is why 4. ... d6 is weak. **6. ... Nf6 7.Qe1!?** 7.fxe5 dxe5 8.Nxe5 Qd4+ 9.Kh1 Qxe5 10.Re1 Ne4 seems OK for Black. However, 7.d4 e4 8.d5 Bd7 9.dxc6 (or 9.Nd4) bxc6 10.Be2 exf3 11.Bxf3 is slightly better for White due to the better pawn structure. **7. ... e4 8.d4!** 8.d3 d5 9.Nc3 (9.Ne5 Bc5+ 10.Be3 Qd6 11.d4 with a small advantage to White) 9. ... Bc5+ 10.Kh1 O-O and White has a small advantage. **8. ... Be7 9.d5 Nxd5 10.Nd4 Qd7 11.g4 Bxg4 12.Qxe4 Nf6 13.Qxc6! bxc6 14.Bxc6 O-O?!** 14. ... Rb8 or even 14. ... O-O!)? are better, when the king can capture on d7 and keep White's knight out. **15.Bxd7 Nxd7 16.Nc6 Bf6 17.c3 Rae8** Black gambits a pawn to use his development edge. Time is the crucial factor in this position. **18.Bd2 Re2 19.Re1 Rfe8**

**20.Rxe2 Rxe2 21.Nd4 Re4?** Clearly better is 21. ... Bxd4+ 22.cxd4 Bf3! 23.Bc3 Rg2+ 24.Kf1 Rxh2 looking toward Be4 and Rh1+ with advantage to Black. **22.Na3 c5 23.Nb5 Re2 24.Be1 d5 25.Bf2 a6 26.Nc7 d4 27.cxd4 27.Nd5** and attempting to exchange the king's bishop was another try. **27. ... cxd4 28.Nc4 Rc2 29.b3 d3 30.Rf1 d2 31.Ne3 Rc1 32.Nxa6 Be2 0-1** An interesting, though flawed game; fun for the fans, anyway. Special thanks to Tedge Davies, Lewis Harkes and most of all Leo.

D. Gomboc - A. Odachowski

Notes by Gomboc

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 d6 3.Nc3 Nbd7 4.Nf3 e5** Arthur keeps his options open. He can still play an Old Indian defense with ... Be7 instead of fianchettoing. **5.e4 g6 6.Be2 Bg7 7.O-O O-O 8.Re1 a5 9.Bf1** White is hoping for 9. ... exd4 10.Nxd4 Re8? 11.Ndb5! and Black is worse. 10 ... c6 is required, intending 11 ... Re8. I learned this trick from *Secrets of Grandmaster Play*, by Nunn and Griffiths. **9 ... Re8!?** **10.d5 Rf8** Arthur thought that pushing d5 was a mistake. I thought that it was a mistake to play ... Re8 before the exd capture, since White causes tempo loss by forcing the rook back to f8 after d5. He feels that the tempo loss is not of great significance. A third person told me that there is a theoretical debate about this between grandmasters. **11.Bg5?!** The beginning of an incorrect plan. I was trying to prevent ...Nh5/Ne8 followed by ...f5, but my bishop becomes inactive. I had expected it to eventually be exchanged off on g3, but Black has other intentions. **11. ... h6 12.Bh4?!** Consistent, but 12.Be3 is better. **12. ... Nc5 13.Rb1?** Again, White shows that he is not well-versed in the subtleties of this variation. 13.Nd2 was better, forcing Black to play ... Qe8. Without h5 attacked, Black can advance immediately on the kingside. **13. ... g5 14.Bg3 Nh5?!** The tactical stroke 14. ... Nfxe4! Nxe4 16.Rxe4 f5 17.Re1 f4 is available here. **15.Nd2 Nf4!** Black's knight is much better than White's bishop on g3, and White cannot even capture it, since it would bring Black's newly unopposed bishop to life after 16.Bf4? exf4! **16. a3?** A blunder. **16. ... a4 17.b4 axb3 18.Nxb3 Rxa3** Oh well. I might as well try to make life difficult for him by wrecking his pawns and attacking them. **19.Nxc5 dxc5 19. ... Rxc3?** 20.Nxb7 returns the pawn. **20.Nb5 Ra6!** Black will play ... Rg6 later, and attack White's king. I felt White was totally busted at this point. This isn't really the case, but certainly Black has the advantage. **21.Ra1 Ra1! 22.Qa1 Re8** I don't know why Arthur decided not to play 22. ... Rg6. Perhaps he feared 23.Ra8, but after 23. ... Qe7 White has nothing, while Black can calmly advance on the kingside. Time control is 40/110, then game/60. At this point I have used 35 minutes; he's used 66. **23. Qa7 Bf8 24.f3 Bd6 25.Bf2 b6 26.Ra1 Qe7** Black aims to reach time control, then work out the win. **27.Be3 Kg7 28.Bf4?** exf4 and Black can use

the diagonal for his pieces, and also has the ...f5 break at his disposal. Yuck! White decides to continue applying pressure to Black's queenside pawns, specifically c7. **28.Nxd6 Qxd6 29.Qb8 Bd7 30.Qb7 Ng6 31.Be2 Bc8 32.Qb8 Bd7 33.Qb7 Ne7** Black is able to inch closer to move 40. I wanted to trade off my white squared bishop, but I wanted to do it before playing Ra7, since then my rook would not have to go Ra7-a4-a7, losing time. I realized here that it was better to play the rook up to prevent Black from doing this over and over. In retrospect, I should have played Ra7 on move 31. **34.Ra7 Rc8 35.Bd1 Kg6 36.Bc2** White still plans to trade off the bishop, but if Black is careless (he has only 1 minute left) he could get into trouble, e.g. 36. ...Be8? or 36. ...f6?: 37.f4! gxf4 38.Bxf4! **36. ...Kg7 37.Ba4 Ba4 38.Ra4 Qd8 39.Ra7 Qd6 40.g4 Kg7 41.Bf2 Qf6 42.Kg2 1/2-1/2**

K. Bourassa - T. Lay

Annotations by Grant Brown

1.e4 Nc6 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 Nf6 4.Nc3 g6 5.Bb5 Bd7 6.Bg5 Bg7 7.Qd2 a6 8.Be2 O-O 9.e5 dxe5 10.Nxe5?! Ne8 11.Nxc6 Bxc6 12.d5 Bd7 13.O-O Nd6 14.h4 b5 15.h5 f6?! 16.hxg6 hxg6 17.Bxh6 Nf7 18.Bxg7 Kxg7 19.Rh2 Rh8 20.Rdh1 Rxh2 21.Rxh2 c5 22.Bf3 Rc8 23.Ne4 Bf5 24.g4 Bxe4 25.Be4 Qd6 26.f4 Rh8 27.Rxh8 Nxh8 28.Qh2?! Nf7 29.c3? Nh6! 30.Qg3 g5 31.Kd2 gxf4 32.Qf3 Nf7 33.Bf5 Ng5 34.Qe2 Qxd5+ 35.Bd3 e5 36.Kc1 c4 37.Bf5 e4 38.Qf2 e3 39.Qxf4 Qd2+ 0-1

D. Macfarlane - P. Alderton

Annotations by Grant Brown

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 Be7 4.h4?! d6 5.d4 Bg4 6.Bxf4 Nf6 7.Nbd2 Nh5 8.g3 Nxf4 9.gxf4 Bxh4?! 10.Rxh4 Qxh4+ 11.Nxh4 Bxd1 12.Rxd1 Nc6 13.Bb5 a6 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.Ndf3?! Rb8 16.Rb1 f6 17.Nf5 Kf7 18.Kd2 h5 19.Kc3 g6 20.Nf5h4 a5 21.Rg1 Rhg8 22.e5 Rbe8 23.Kb3 a4 24.Ka3 dxe5 25.fxe5 c5 26.c3 cxd4 27.cxd4 g5 28.Nhf5 Ke6 29.Ng3 g4 30.d5+ Kxd5 31.Nxh5 gxf3 32.Nxf6+ Ke6 33.Nxg8 f2 34.Rg6+? [34.Rf1 Rxg8 35.Rxf2 Kxe5 36.Kxa4 Kd6 37.Rc2 with decent winning chances.] 34. ... Kxe5 35.Rf6 Rxg8 36.Rxf2 Rg4 37.Rf7 Kd6 38.Rf8 Kc6 39.Ra8 Kb5 40.b3 axb3 41.Rb8+ Kc5 42.axb3 c6 43.b4+ Kd6 44.Ka4 c5 45.Ka5 c4 46.b5 Kc7 (*The sealed move. The game was played to a draw; if anyone can find a win I'd like to hear about it.*)

J. Rajchel - K. Bourassa

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Bd7 4.Bxd7 Nxd7 5.d3 Nf6 6.Nc3 e6 7.O-O Be7 8.Be3 a6 9.Re1 Qc7 10.Bf4 O-O 11.Qd2 b5 12.a3 Rfe8 13.Rad1 Nb6 14.Qe2 b4 15.Nb1 a5 16.b3 a4 17.axb4 cxb4 18.bxa4 Nxa4 19.Rc1 Nc3 20.Nxc3 bxc3 21.Ra1 e5 22.Be3 Ng4 23.Rxa8 Rxa8 24.Bc1 Ra1 25.h3 Nf6 26.Be3 Ra2 27.Rb1 Rb2 28.Ra1 Nd7 29.Ra7 Rb1+ 30.Kh2 Qc6 31.Ra3 d5 32.exd5 Qxd5 33.Ra4 Bb4 34.Ra7 Be7 35.Ra4 Qd6 36.Ra8+ Nb8 37.g3 h5 38.Ba7 f6 39.Rxb8+ Rxb8 40.Bxb8 Qxb8 41.Qe4 Qb2 42.Qa4 Qb4 43.Qe8+ Kh7 44.Qxh5+ Kg8 45.Qe8+ Kh7 46.Qc6 Bc5 47.Kg2 Qb6 48.Qxb6 Bxb6 1/2-1/2



# ALBERTA JUNIOR CHESS REPORT



(A Special section of the Alberta Chess Report, November 1996)

## SOUTHERN ALBERTA JUNIOR

By Dave Gomboc, TD & Org.

Five players, including one of last year's co-champions, attended the 1996 Southern Alberta Junior Championship. 30 moves in an hour, then game in 30 proved to be too slow a pace, as in most games contestants had ample time on their clocks. Victorious once again this year was Jordan Davies, of Calgary. Second, and also qualifying for the Alberta Junior, is Gurb Singh. Jeff Huang played well, but just missed a spot. Anant won a strange-looking game against Nigel Sharp, who had winning positions in two other games, but couldn't convert. Nigel, the youngest contestant, probably will convert some of those positions next year, so be forewarned!

The games follow. Game order was determined by the "who can play next?" criteria, followed by "who wants to play next?" as a tiebreak. Thanks to Glenn Booth, Jim Daniluk, and Walter Watson for helping me out with some of the organizational details.

Anant Patel - Jordan Davies

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.d3 Nc6 4. f4 g6 5.Nge2 Bg4 6.Be3 Bg7 7.h3 Bd7 8.Ng3 e6 9.Nce2 Nge7 10.c3 O-O 11.d4 f5 12.dxc5 dxc5 13.Bxc5 Qc7 14.Qd2 e5 15.O-O-O Rad8 16.Ng1 Be6 17.Qf2 Bxa2 18.Bb5 Rxd1+ 19.Kxd1 Bb3+ 20.Kc1 Rd8 21.Be2 Qd7 22.Nf3 exf4 23.Qf1 fxg3 24.Bc4+ Bxc4 25.Qxc4+ Kh8 26.Kc2 Na5 27.Qb4 Qd3+ 28.Kc1 Bh6+ 29.Nd2 Bxd2+ 30.Kd1 Bxc3+ 31.Kc1 Bxb4 32.Bxb4 Nb3# 0-1

Gurb Singh - Nigel Sharp

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.f3 Bg7 7.Be3 O-O 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.h4 Bd7 10.O-O-O Rc8 11.g4 Nxd4 12.Bxd4 Be6 13.h5 Qa5 14.hxg6 fxg6 15.g5 Nh5 16.Bxg7 Nxg7 17.Qh2 Nh5 18.f4 Bxa2 19.Be2 Rxc3 20.Bxh5 Rfc8 21.Rd2 Bb3 22.Kd1 Qa1+ 23.Ke2 Qa6+ 24.Ke1 Qa1+ 25.Kf2 Rxc2 26.Rxa1 Rxd2+ 27.Be2 Rcc2 28.Ke3 Rxe2+ 29.Qxe2 Rxe2+ 30.Kxe2 a6 31.Kd3 d5 32.Rc1 dxe4+ 33.Kxe4 a5 34.Rc7 b5 35.Rxe7 a4 36.Kd4 b4 37.Rb7 a3 38.bxa3 bxa3 39.Rxb3 1-0

Jeff Huang - Gurb Singh

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Nf3 g6 4.Bf4 c6 5.e3 Bg7 6.Bd3 O-O 7.O-O Nbd7 8.Re1 Nh5 9.Qd2 b5 10.Ne2 a5 11.a4 b4 12.c3 bxc3 13.bxc3 Ba6 14.Rab1 Nxf4 15.Nxf4 e5 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Bxa6 Nxf3+ 18.gxf3 Rxa6 19.Qd3 Rb6 20.Rxb6 Qxb6 21.Rb1 Qc5 22.Ne2 Qa3 23.Qc2 Qd6 24.Nd4 Qf6 25.Rb6 Qg5+ 26.Kh1 e5 27.Nc6 Qf6 28.Kg2 Rc8 29.Na7 Qxb6 30.Nxc8 Qc7 31.Qd3 Qxc8 32.Qxd5 Bxc3 33.Qd3 Bb4 34.Qb5 c4 35.Kf1 c3 0-1

Nigel Sharp - Jordan Davies

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 5.Nb5 a6 6.Nd6+ Bxd6 7.Qxd6 Qf6 8.Qxf6 Nxf6 9.Nc3 O-O 10.Bg5 Ne8 11.Be3 d6 12.Bc4 Be6 13.Bxe6 fxe6 14.O-O Rd8 15.Rad1 Nf6 16.Rd2 d5 17.exd5 exd5 18.Bg5 Ne7 19.Rfd1 d4 20.Bxf6 Rxf6 21.Ne4 Rg6 22.c3 Nf5 23.Kf1 Rg4 24.Nc5 Rf8 25.Nxb7 Ne3+ 26.Kg1 Nxd1 27.Rxd1 dxc3 28.bxc3 Rc4 0-1

Jordan Davies - Gurb Singh

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.f4 d5 4.Nf3 dxe4 5.Nxe4 Nc6 6.Bc4 Nf6 7.Qe2 Be7 8.O-O a6 9.a4 Nd4 10.Nxf6+ Bxf6 11.Nxd4 Qxd4+ 12.Kh1 Bd7 13.d3 O-O 14.c3 Qd6 15.Be3 e5 16.Qf2 Rac8 17.fxe5 Bxe5 18.Bxf7+ Kh8 19.Qh4 Bf6 20.Qh5 Be6 21.Bg6 Bg8 22.Rf3 Be7 23.Rh3 Rf6 24.Bxh7 Bf7 25.Bg6+ 1-0

Jeff Huang - Nigel Sharp

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Bb5+ Bd7 7.Qe2 Bg7 8.Be3 O-O 9.O-O a6 10.Bc4 Nc6 11.f4 Rc8 12.Rad1 Rc7 13.Nxc6 Rxc6 14.e5 dxe5 15.fxe5 Ng4 16.e6 Rxc4 17.Qxc4 Nxe3 18.exf7+ Kh8 19.Qd3 Nxf1 20.Qxf1 Bf6 21.Qd3 Qb6+ 22.Kh1 Bf5 23.Qc4 Qf2 24.Nd5 Rxf7 25.Nxf6 Rxf6 26.Rd8+ Kg7 27.h3 Qe1+ 28.Kh2 Qe5+ 29.g3 Qe3 30.Rg8+ Kh6 31.Qh4# 1-0

## NORTHERN ALBERTA JUNIOR

by David Ottosen, TD & Org.

While not at the same strength level as last year's NAB Junior, this year's event saw several of the same participants, and with two clear favorites (Beatrice Wu and Dmitri Shefer), who out rated the rest of the field by several hundred points, there was the potential for great upsets across the board (no pun intended!). However, the tournament turned out to be tremendously boring, as Dmitri scored 4.5, defeating Beatrice along the way and finishing with a quick draw in the last round (for no apparent reason. There was nothing to lose by playing for a win, and rating points were lost by taking the draw). Beatrice recovered from her defeat (not an easy thing to do, as it was rather brutal), defeating Cynthia Wu in the last round to gain her spot. Adrien Regimbald also had a good tournament, scoring 3.5/5, and taking two "scalps" along the way.

## CALGARY JUNIOR CHESS CLUB

(Sponsored by Chess 'n Math)

**Contact:** Glenn Booth (284-2159)

**Site:** ABC Charter P.S.

**Schedule:** The next tournament is on December 1; 1997 schedule to be announced.

## ALBERTA CADET CHAMPIONSHIP

**Where:** Red Deer

**When:** December 14-15, 1996

**Who:** By invitation only (we'll call you)

**Contact:** Neil Sharp (346-0420)

## CANADIAN YOUTH CHESS FESTIVAL

(Sponsored by Chess 'n Math)

Competitions in four age categories:

Under 10 (Mosquito)

Under 12 (PeeWee)

Under 14 (Bantam)

Under 18 (Minor)

Provincial Finals:

**Date:** November 30, 1996

**Registration:** 9:30-10:00 a.m.

**Site:** Red Deer College, room 823 (on 32nd Street, just east of highway 2).

**Organizer:** Ford Wong (481-6474)

**Director:** Neil Sharp (346-0420)

Winners advance to the Nationals, tentatively scheduled for February 1997.

## CANADIAN CHESS CHALLENGE

Regional and provincial championships for each grade, 1 through 12, will take place starting in February, 1997. Watch for more details in the next issue of *Alberta Chess Report*.

Provincial Coordinator: Neil Sharp 346-0420

## EDMONTON JUNIOR CHESS CLUB

**Contact:** Adam Wu (462-0838)

**Site:** Edmonton Chess Club, Prince of Wales Armoury, 10440 108 Ave., southwest entrance.

**Registration:** before 9:45 a.m.

**Schedule:**

December 7: Anticipations of Christmas

To the Death Active

January 1997 (exact date to be announced)

Junior Rockets Endgame Festival

February 1997 (exact date to be announced)

1000 Points to GM Open

March, April and May tournaments will be held, with exact dates to be announced.

## Special Features

**December:** The December tournament will be "to the death"--as in no draw offers allowed.

**January & February, 1997:** A book prize will be given to anyone who succeeds in mating with bishop and knight in a tournament game.

Contest book prizes, unlike normal book prizes, will be chosen before the tournament begins by the TD. (i.e the winner doesn't get to choose).

## CANADIAN JUNIOR CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

The best Juniors (under 20) in Canada are coming to **Edmonton** this Christmas.

Site: Edmonton Chess Club

Tentative Schedule:

- Round 1: Dec 27 @ 15:00
- Round 2 & 3: Dec 28
- Round 4: Dec 29
- Round 5 & 6: Dec 30
- Round 7: Dec 31
- Round 8: Jan 1
- Round 9 & 10: Jan 2
- Round 11: Jan 3

Alberta's Junior champion, **Douglas Wu** will be joined by Alberta's highest rated junior, **Nathan McLean**, to carry provincial honours.

Spectators are welcome: only \$1.00 per day, or \$5.00 for the entire tournament.

Other Events:

A **speed chess** tournament, open to everyone—come and test your skill against Canada's best Juniors.

A **Siamese (Bug-house) chess** tournament, open to everyone (not recommended for people who are currently sane).

**Contact:** David Ottosen (425-1584)

**Billets are required** for the contestants in the Canadian Junior Chess Championship. You will be asked to provide 7 or 8 nights accommodation, breakfast and some suppers.

You do not have to provide transportation to and from the airport, or to and from the tournament site. The organizers will take care of that.

Can you house and feed a young chess genius? There are ten players who need care, and they range in age from about 14 to 18. Please help: you will receive an honourarium and profuse thanks.

Contact: John Quiring, 468-9173

## ALMOST UNDER 1800 CLUB OCTOBER ACTIVE

By Farzan Nazarian, TD

14 players gathered to witness my first experience as a TD which turned out to be quite pleasant. (I especially liked it when I had to tell someone "Hush!")

The event ended with no disputes (unfortunately!) with Steve Sauve finishing in first place and winning the trophy with 4 1/2 points. Tied for second place was the little guy Jeff Huang, being stopped only by Steve in the last round. Also with 4 points was Frank Knoll, who surprised me with his performance. GM Scott Beesley who was flown in especially for the event wasn't in his best shape, and tripped over Jeff and Steve in the first and third round. At the bottom of the table, the courageous Danny Le and Joshua Sealy who kept their spirits despite their losses, shared 1/2 point each (I wonder what their secret is!)

Congratulations to the winner and the rest of the players who were very cooperative with my first experience. Thanks also to our new president Tedge Davies for banging at my apartment door at 2 a.m. Friday night, looking for a last minute TD and granting me the opportunity.

## GRANDE PRAIRIE FALL ACTIVE

By Phil Lefkowitz, TD & Org.

The Grande Prairie CC hosted the Fall Active, first event of the 13th annual Peace Country Grand Prix. Phil Lefkowitz for the home team, and Grant Mactavish of the Dawson Creek CC tied for first with 3.5/4 in the open section.

In the Under 1600 section, John King of Dawson Creek played very impressively, and took first, and Scott Boyer, a pre-cadet!, Paul McGinnis and Gary Doll all for the home team scored 2, for a 3-way tie for 2nd. Thanks to Jim Kanester and Todd Seitz for organizing the Grand Prix.

## CALGARY CHESS CLUB EARLY AUGUST ACTIVE

By Walter Watson, Org.

Fresh from his first place tie in the CCC's July Active, Art Milne scored a decisive 5.5 - 0.5 victory in the Early August Active. Art's perfect score after 4 rounds was already good for a 1.5 point lead on his closest pursuers and he conceded only a last round draw to Jeff Chrumka. John Parrott was second with 4.5 points after losing to

Art and drawing with Jim Daniluk and Jeff was third with 4. Art won \$35 for his efforts, but the beer he bought this reporter from his loot only partly made up for the miserable defeat he gave me.

Don Macfarlane, Andre Naumann and newcomer Toy Iost each scored 2.5 points and split the Under 1800 prize. There were 12 players in all. Jeff Chrumka directed the tournament, and then headed to B.C. for a time to seek his fortune.

## MEDICINE HAT OPEN

By Bill Taylor, TD & Org.

Eleven players engaged in chess battles in the 2nd Medicine Hat Open, including 4 out of town competitors. Edmonton was successfully represented by the dynamic duo of the ex-"Mr. Big" (Ford Wong) and a current "Mr. Big" (John Quiring). We hope some day to have the embodiment of our Patron Saint (Len Steele), but on this occasion he was only present in spirit. Calgary had one lone representative, Chris Kuczaj, but he had a superlative tournament with 3 wins and 2 ties, to share 1st with our other out-of-town participant, Nathan McLean of Rimbey. They both finished with 4/5, including a hard fought draw in round 4.

Medicine Hatters were again overmatched and outplayed by our guests, but I would like to think this was a reflection of our hospitality. "Mr. TD" (Bill Taylor) was the top local player with 3/5, and the only one to snatch a victory from our visitors (vs. Ford in Rd. 2). Luc Barton (2.5/5) won the Top Junior prize.

One new CFC member (Kyle Sadler) was welcomed to the family at this year's event. Our thanks go out to Gary & Oliver Martinez for bringing him along. Free coffee and muffins were enjoyed by the participants, and the tournament room was judged to be superb by Chris Kuczaj. My hope is to create a "permanent" trophy with keeper trophies for the top two players prior to next year's event. Maybe this will entice more out-of-town participants to visit our fair city and sample our hospitality.

F. Wong - L. Barton (Notes by Barton)

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5** 3.dxc5 leaves White's centre weak. **3. ...d6 4.Nc3 g6** Transposing to the King's Indian Defense. I played the KID against Ford last year too--not a good idea. **5.e4 Bg7 6.f4 e5?** 6. ...e6 is more common. **7.fxe5**

**dxe5 8.Nf3 O-O 9.Bd3** If 9.Nxe5 Nxe4 10.Nxe4 Bxe5 or 10. ...Re8. **9. ...Nfd7?** This move tangles my pieces up and prevents me from developing properly. Better is 9. ...Ne8 and then Nd6. **10.O-O a6 11.a4 Qc7 12.Rf2 Nf6** I realized my knight wasn't doing anything at d7. **13.h3 Ne8 14.Be3 Nd6 15.Qd2 f5 16.Bh6 Qf7** An immediate ...f4 would be better. **17.Bxg7 Qxg7 18.Ng5 f4 19.Be2 h6?** Ford thought afterwards that ...Qf6 would have drawn, e.g. 19. ... Qf6 20.Ne6 Bxe6 21.dxe6 Qxe6 22.Bg4 Qe7 23.Nd5 Qd8 24.Qd3 Nc6 25.Rd1, although White still has a fairly strong attack. **20.Ne6! Bxe6 21.dxe6 Rd8 22.Qd5 Qe7 23.Qxe5 Qg5?** 23. ...Nc6 24.Qxc5 Qxe6 probably still loses, but at least Black doesn't lose a piece. **24.e7! Re8 25.Qxd6 Nc6 26.Nd5 Nxe7 27.Nxe7 Rxe7 28.Rxf4 Rae8 29.Raf1 Kg7 30.Bg4 h5 31.h4 Qe5 32.Qxe5 Rxe5 33.Rf7+ 1-0**

B. Taylor - F. Wong (Notes by Taylor)

**1.f4** As long time combatants (20+ years) we know each other's tricks pretty well. I decided to play something Ford hadn't seen for a while. **1. ... Nf6 2.Nf3 b6 3.e3 Bb7 4.Be2 e6 5.b3 Be7 6.c4 d5 7.Bb2 Nbd7 8.cxd5 exd5** 8. ...Bxd5 is also playable as Black doesn't need to fear 9.Nc3. He should simply continue on with natural development (9. ... O-O) and should soon be able to contest the a1-h8 diagonal. **9.O-O O-O 10.Ne5 Bc5** A loss of a tempo, unless this was designed to provoke d4. **11.d4 Bd6 12.Nd2 Ne4?!** This gives White the initiative after 14.Bc4. Better perhaps is 12. ...c6 with a retreat of the king bishop or 12. ...Rc8 with a push of the e-pawn. **13.Nxe4 dxe4 14.Bc4 Nf6 15.f5** Freeing f4 for the rook. **15. ...c5 16.Qe2 Qc7 17.g4?!** I overlooked the incredible threats along the a8-h1 and a7-g1 diagonals. **17. ...cxd4 18.exd4** Better is 18.Bxd4 keeping the e-pawn blockaded. **18. ...Bxe5 19.dxe5 Qc5+ 20.Kg2 e3+ 21.Kh3 21.Kg1** appears to lose after 21. ...Qc6 22.Qf3 Qxf3 23.Rxf3 Bxf3 24.exf6. **21. ...Ne4 22.Rc1! Qa5** 22. ...Ng5+ 23.Kh4 and Black must move his queen off the c-file because of the threat of Bxf7+; or 22. ...Qe7 23.f6. **23.Qxe3 Qxa2 24.Rc2 Qa5** Black's attack falters after the mistake on move 25. **25.Ra1 Qc5?** 25. ...Qb4 appears to hold the fort, e.g. 25.Ba3 Qa5 26.Bxf8 Qxa1 27.Bd6 Nxe6 28.exd6 26.Bxf7+ Rxf7 **27.Rxc5 Nxc5 28.Rd1** 28.e6 is solid and more forceful. **28. ... h6 29.Rd6** 29.e6 is still playable. **29. ... Ne4 30.Rd4 Ng5+ 31.Kg3 Rc8 32.h4 Rc2 33.hxg5 Rg2+ 34.Kf4 hxg5+ 35.Kxg5 Rxb2 36.e6 1-0 (time)**

# THE ALBERTA OPEN

By Ford Wong, Org. and TD

On Friday night, the night before the first day of the Alberta Open, it was quiet, almost too quiet. My initial feeling was that there might be a low turnout for the tournament. I generally judge this by the number of phone calls I get; I literally had none. There were few advance entries. I told myself that I would be happy if thirty people showed up. I also wondered how many high rated players would show up, as there was a carload going to Saskatoon from Calgary (drats). With this being an Alberta Closed qualifier, would there be a such a low turnout of experts/ masters that a low rated player would qualify for the Closed? I was not overly optimistic.

Surprise! Surprise! You may call the 1996 Alberta Open, the ACA Field of Dreams: host it and they will come! And they did: from Lethbridge, Slave Lake, Yellowknife, Wainwright, Hinton, Thorhild, Vancouver, Calgary, Ponoka and 4 from Calgary via Saskatoon. These last 4 caught me by surprise but I was happy to see them. (It seems they had a problem with the Prairie Open organizers. Their loss is Alberta's gain). They had driven all night to arrive in time. I admit a couple of them looked like they could use some shut-eye.

After registration, I felt that this was going to be a great tournament (and I think it was); 41 registrants of which almost half (18) were rated 2000 plus which included five (count 'em) masters. This was going to make this year's Alberta Open, one of the strongest Opens and qualifiers in a long time. In addition, whoever won the Open would have to earn it. For a moment, I felt sorry for the A class and lower players who may get massacred. But the opportunity was now open to grab mega points (or lose megas points). And certainly several players took advantage of this opportunity. It makes me feel good when a lot of Alberta's strongest chess players come out and play. I personally feel that the presence of high rated players makes a tournament. With such a strong field of players, I made the Open 1st and 2nd class prizes higher than normal which would make it more interesting to see who would finish first as this would give everyone something to battle for. And battle they did.

The outcome of the Alberta Open was not decided until the last clock was stopped. Boards 1 and 2 were the last games to finish in both rounds 5 and 6. All games were exciting and double-edged giving spectators plenty to talk about and to analyse. For example: in round 5, Fullbrook, with 3 connected passed pawns for a bishop, goes for the win and falters against Odachowski. In retrospect a draw would still have left Nigel in the hunt with 4 pts but he felt he needed the whole point. Yearwood-Ristovic was a very double edged affair with mating & perpetual check

possibilities. In round 4, Frialde, under extreme time pressure, misses a mate with knights and queen against Ristovic. Everyone was playing for the win.

Going into the last round, Odachowski led with 4.5 pts, ahead of Frialde, Ristovic, Yearwood, Kuczaj and Newton. When the nuclear fire, the gnashing of teeth, the staccato of machine gun fire, the screams of the dying, and all the explosions had subsided, and with the smell of fresh cordite hanging in the air, the winners emerged: Frialde and Ristovic had survived; Yearwood had drawn

Newton, Ristovic beat Kuczaj, Frialde defeated Odachowski. Arniel Frialde qualified for the Alberta Closed on second tie-break. Nenad Ristovic, a close second will be a power to reckon with in the future.

Although the focus was mainly at the top boards, there were critical games in the other classes as well. Campbell suffered a last round loss which allowed Lovi's last round draw to prevail and give Lovi claim to first in the 1500-1699 class. Ottosen, after a very slow start, snuck back into the money with a last round quick win against Karmali.

### The winners:

Open: =1st: Frialde, Ristovic

3rd: Fullbrook, Yearwood, Odachowski

1900-2100 1st: Newton

=2nd: Brown, Kuczaj, Ottosen

1700-1899 1st: Ninine

=2nd: Climenhaga, Feng, Votary

1500-1699: 1st: Lovi

=2nd: Gibson, Davies, C.Wu, Campbell, Crosswhite

Under 1499 and UNR: Morrow, Regimbald

Top Jr Under 1700: Regimbald

Finally, a great big thank you to everyone who came out to play. You all made the tournament a success in my eyes. Hats off to everyone. In addition, I would like to thank Grant Brown, who made the HUGE Alberta Open Chess Championship banner, Wayne Mendryk (who always helps out) and lastly Harold Climenhaga (who helped complete pairing cards during registration).

And last of all, thank you to everyone who took the time to submit a game scoresheet. Hopefully there will be room in the next *ACR*.

## ALBERTA OPEN 1996

| Name                | Rtg   | Rd1 | Rd2 | Rd3 | Rd4 | Rd5 | Rd6 | Pts |
|---------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 Arniel Frialde    | 2293  | +15 | +13 | +9  | -2  | +12 | +4  | 5.0 |
| 2 Nenad Ristovic    | 2278  | +20 | +19 | =17 | +1  | =3  | +8  | 5.0 |
| 3 Roy Yearwood      | 2203  | +31 | +16 | =12 | +17 | =2  | =6  | 4.5 |
| 4 Arthur Odachowski | 2171  | +29 | =14 | +25 | +7  | +5  | -1  | 4.5 |
| 5 Nigel Fullbrook   | 2247  | +18 | +8  | =7  | +24 | -4  | +15 | 4.5 |
| 6 Geoff Newton      | 1961  | +27 | -7  | +33 | +10 | +24 | =3  | 4.5 |
| 7 Grant Brown       | 2053  | +41 | +6  | =5  | -4  | +28 | =9  | 4.0 |
| 8 Chris Kuczaj      | 2014  | +35 | -5  | +31 | +30 | +13 | -2  | 4.0 |
| 9 Brad Willis       | 2110  | +26 | +11 | -1  | =12 | +14 | =7  | 4.0 |
| 10 Dale Haessel     | 2262  | +23 | -12 | +34 | -6  | +26 | +21 | 4.0 |
| 11 Dave Ottosen     | 2006  | +36 | -9  | -30 | +29 | +18 | +24 | 4.0 |
| 3.5                 | 12.Dave Gomboc; 13.Chris Dartana; 14.Rodney Thiel<br>15.Carl Ninine; 16.John Quiring;                                   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 3.0                 | 17.Adam Wu; 18.Sidney Votary; 19.Douglas Wu<br>20.Harold Climenhaga; 21.Paul Usselman<br>22.Aaron Lovi; 23.Jay Feng     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 2.5                 | 24.Hafiz Karmali; 25.Adrien Regimbald; 26.Gerhardt Reuter<br>27.Lawrence Morrow; 28.Cor Dewindt; 29.Jan Vandenberg      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 2.0                 | 30.Kris Gibson; 31.James Golmon; 32.Duncan Campbell<br>33.Cynthia Wu; 34.Mark Adam; 35.Bob Davies<br>36.Curt Crosswhite |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 1.5                 | 37.Kim Nguyen; 38.Tom McKay   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 1.0                 | 39.Chris Miller   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 0.5                 | 40.Nils Reuter  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 0.0                 | 41.Brad Kroeker (0/2)   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

### D. Campbell - S. Votary

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be2 Bg7 7.Be3 d6 8.Qd2 Bd7 9.O-O a6 10.f4 O-O 11.f5 Ne5 12.h3 Qc8 13.g4 Bc6 14.Nxc6 Qxc6 15.Bd3 d5 16.Qg2 Rad8 17.exd5 Rxd5 18.Nxd5 Qxd5 19.fxg6 hxg6 20.Qxd5 Nxd5 21.Bc5 Nxd3 22.cxd3 Rc8 23.Bf2 Nf4 24.Rad1 Rc2 25.Ba7 Ne2+ 26.Kg2 Nc3+ 27.Kf3 Nxd1 28.Rxd1 Rxb2 29.a3 Rb3 30.Be5 Bb2 31.Bxe7 Bxa3 32.Bf6 Bb2 33.Be7 Bg7 34.Ke4 a5 35.d4 Bh6 36.g5 Bf8 37.Bxf8 Kxf8 38.d5 Ke7 39.d6+ Kd7 40.Ke5 Rxh3 41.Kf6 Rf3+ 42.Ke5 Rf4 0-1

### N. Fullbrook - H. Karmali

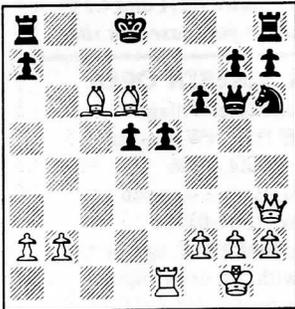
Notes by Fullbrook

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Qb6 6.Bd3 This move is the start of the Milner Barry Gambit. White offers to sac one or both of his centre pawns for development. It's my pet line, and I'm happy to get an opportunity to use it. 6. ... Bd7 7.O-O cxd4 8.cxd4 Nxd4 9.Nxd4 Qxd4 10.Nc3 Qxe5 Recommended is 10. ... a6 The last time an opponent took both pawns it was one of the materialistic grubby computer programs. 11.Re1 Qd6?! 11. ... Qb8 is playable, for example: 12.Nxd5 Bd6 13.Qg4 Kf8 14.Bd2 h5 15.Qh3 Bc6 16.Ne3 Nf6 17.Bc3 Be5 18.Bxe5 Qxe5 19.Nc4 is unclear. I still believe White has enough compensation, as his rooks are more active. 12.Nb5 Qb8 The computer played 12. ... Bxb5 13.Bxb5+ Kd8 and survived an uncomfortable 30 moves. Note White's attacking pawn structure. 13.Qf3 Bd6 14.Nxd6+ Qxd6 15.Bf4 Qe7 16.Qg3 f6 17.Bd6 Qf7 18.Ra1 Bc6 19.Bf5 e5 20.Qh3 Nh6 21.Be6 Qg6

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

22.Rxc6 bxc6 23.Bd7+ Kd8 24.Bxc6



(Diagram)

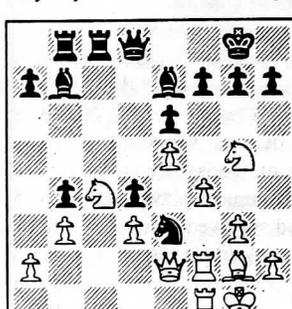
24. ... Nf5  
25.Qa3 a5  
26.Be7+ After the game, Hafiz suggested 26.Bxa8 Kd7 27.Bc6+ but I don't see a mate. Perhaps 26.Rc1! is best. 26. ... Kc7 27.Bxa8

Rxa8 28.Qc5+ Kd7 29.Qxd5 Kxe7 30.Qxa8 Nd4 31.Qe4 Qxe4 32.Rxe4 Kd6 33.f3 f5 34.Re1 g5 35.Kf2 h5 36.Rc1 Nc6 37.Ke3 Kd5 38.Rd1+ Nd4 39.Rxd4+! This king and pawn ending should be an easy win, but I mucked it up. I bet you thought masters know what they are doing. 39. ... exd4+ 40.Kd3 a4? More stubborn is 40. ... Kc5; if 41.a3 a4, or if 41.b3 Kb4. 41.b4?? 41.b3 wins easily: 41. ... a3 42.g3 h4 43.gxh4 gxh4 44.f4 h3 45.b4 41. ... f4 42.a3 Ke5? Last chance 42. ... g4 43.h3 (not 43.fxg4 hxg4 44.h4 f3 45.gxf3 g3) 43. ... gxh3 44.gxh3 h4 45.b5 Kc5 46.b6 Kxb6 47.Kxd4 Kc6 48.Ke4 Kc5 49.Kxf4 Kc4 50.Kg5 Kb3 51.f4 Kxa3 52.f5 Kb3 and who knows. 43.Kc4 g4 44.h4 gxh3 45.gxh3 h4 46.b5 d3 47.Kxd3 Kd5 48.b6 Kc6 1-0

R. Yearwood - N. Ristovic

Notes by Yearwood

1.e4 e6 2.Qe2 Be7 I wasn't completely unfamiliar with the Chigorin since I'd looked at quite a few games played by Lawrence Day recently. 3.f4 d5 4.d3 Nf6 5.e5 I didn't like the looks of 5.c3 dxe4 6.dxe4 b6. 5. ... Nfd7 6.g3 c5 7.c3 Nc6 8.Nf3 O-O 9.Bh3 b5 10.Be3 Nb6 11.Nbd2 Black gets in on the queen-side after 11.Na3 b4 12.cxb4 Nxb4 13.Nc2 Nxc2+ 14.Qxc2 Ba6 with the idea of ...Nd5 and ...Nb4. 11. ... Bb7 12.Bf2 Na4 12. ... d4 doesn't seem to be as forcing now on account of Ted Wilson's 13.Ne4. 13.Rb1 b4 14.c4 dxc4 15.Nxc4 Nd4 16.Bxd4 cxd4 17.O-O Rb8 18.Nfd2 Nc5 19.Rbd1 Qd5 20.Nf3 Rfc8 21.b3 Weak. By weakening c3 (e3 is already toast) White ensures he will be defending for quite a while. 21.Rc1 preserves White's options, although after 21. ... Ba6 22.Nfd2 Rc7 White may have to play b3 anyway. 21. ... Na6 22.Bg2 Nc7 23.Rf2 Qd8



(Diagram)

24.Rdf1 Nd5 25.Ng5 Ne3 25. ... g6 stopping Qh5 and only later ...Ne3 may have been better, e.g. 26.Be4 Nc3 27.Qf3 (27.Qg4 Be4) Qd7 holds the threats. 26.Bxb7 Rxc4

My opponent is concerned about the weakness at d6 after say 26. ... Rxb7 27.Ne4 Nxf1 28.Qxf1.

27.Be4 I was happy here since I've kept an important defender of the light squares. Weaker is 27.Qh5 Bxg5 28.fxg5 Rc7 29.Rxf7 Nxf1. 27. ... Bxg5 28.dxc4 Be7 29.Re1 The savage Dave Gomboc felt that 29.f5 could be tried. 29. ... g6 30.Kh1 Bc5 31.Qf3 White's plan is to open lines on the kingside with f5 and h5 while stopping the advance ...d3. 31. ... Qc7 32.Rd2 Qb6 33.g4 Re8 34.Rg1 Qd8 35.Qg3 f5 36.gxf5 I didn't like 36.exf6 Qxf6 as much since there might be pressure against f4 by ...Rf8 and ...Bd6, maybe even supported by ...g5. 36. ... exf5 37.Bc6 Re7 37.Bc6 was the first loss of direction, chasing the rook to a more relevant post. 38.Re1 Qc7 39.Qf3 Kh8 40.h4 Because of the poorly prepared advance Black is going to get counterplay. It was better to first return a rook to the g-file, play h3 to both confine the knight and give the king some air, and put the bishop on f3. h4 would then be a strong move. 40. ... Rg7 41.Rg1 Qe7 42.h5 Ng4 43.Qh3 g5 44.Bf3 d3 45.Rgg2 Ne3 46.Rxg5 Rxg5 47.fxg5 Qxe5 48.Rxd3 Qa1+ 48. ... Ng4 looks appealing, but after 49.Rd8+ Kg7 50.h6+ Kg6 51.Qh4 Bf2 (51. ... Qa1 52.Rd1 or 51. ... Nf2 52.Kg2) 52.Rg8+ Kf7 53.g6+ it's all over. (Man, Gomboc can be brutal!) 49.Bd1 Nxd1 50.Rd8+ Bf8 The final mistake Black makes, which should cause his defeat. After 50. ... Kg7 White can only draw since going to the f-file allows Qxf5+. 51.Qf1 Qc3 52.Qxd1 52.Rxf8 Kg7 53.Rxf5 would have been a more satisfactory finish to the game. 53. ... Qh3+ 53.Kg1 Qg3+ 54.Kf1 Qh3+ 55.Ke1 I simply thought I'd lose my rook at d8 if I tried to cross the d-file with 55.Ke2 Qxh5+ 56.Kd2 Qxg5 57.Kc2. No, I wasn't in time pressure either. 55. ... Qg3+ 56.Ke2 Qe5+ 57.Kf3 Qe4+ 58.Kg3 Qe3+ 1/2-1/2

### "Road Kill" - All Roads Lead To Edmonton by Arthur Odachowski

On Friday October 11, four Calgarians Dave Gomboc, Dale Haessel, Roy Yearwood and Odie (that's me) embarked on a journey to h\*ll (Saskatoon and the Prairie Open chess tournament). Haessel had to work until noon which left only 7 hours until the 1st round 600 km away. At 12:00 I informed the Prairie Open organizers that we were on our way and with high hopes we took to the road. As luck had it, we missed a turn which cost us about 100 km, then got a speeding ticket. So, at 5 p.m., still 200 km away, another call was made, we informed the organizers of our situation and asked to be paired anyway. We finally arrived at the tournament site about 7:20, a full 20 minutes late, call in the militia!

To our shock we were not paired, because the tournament organizers didn't know if we would show up. Yes, every weekend I call poor unsuspecting TD's as a practical joke; the crop circles were also my idea. We were told to accept 0 point byes for round 1, which would be a nice way to take out 3 of the highest rated

Alberta Open Statistics, by Ford Wong  
Average rating of top 20 players: 2096  
Amount of chocolate bars and pop consumed by the players: \$110.00  
Number of pairing errors made by TD: 2  
[but how could you goof up Rd. 1?-ed]

players in the tournament.

Our pleas for 1/2 point byes fell on deaf ears. Our proposal to pair us among each other was rejected, seemingly on the grounds that we could fix the results! For unexplained reasons, these two options were thought of as unfair to other competitors, even though a couple of Saskatoon players pleaded our case, to no avail. I find it strange they would turn down \$240 in entry fees as both Dale and Roy agreed to pay despite having 2200+ ratings.

Those who know me, have probably realized by now that I'm easy going but when provoked I turn "semi-psychotic" and make impulsive decisions. Well, somebody said "We don't need this crap, we have our own tournament in Edmonton". (Ok, so it was me). What can I say? I object to being called a cheat, directly or indirectly, and don't like to be treated like a dog. After a short discussion, there was nothing left but to congratulate the organizers for a job well done, and leave.

By 9:00 PM the musketeers once again hit the highway, this time to a place where all players are welcomed. Surprisingly we were in great spirits. The whole distance was driven by Dave who for the most part did a fine job--except possibly for an imaginative U-turn which left us temporarily stuck in the middle of a small highway; and a close encounter of the porcupine kind which caused the car to experience some turbulence.

The Alberta border was greeted with cheers, the sky turned blue, or at least a nicer shade of black, and the birds started singing. At 6:00 a.m. we were in Edmonton. We found a hotel, then went to the tournament site without any sleep, and were glad to see one of the greatest TD's, Mr.T himself. In the opening speech Ford greeted all players most enthusiastically especially those who came via Saskatchewan; finally we were home.

Some of you may wonder why I would want to skip our championship for some tournament in Saskatchewan. The original reason was to play new people, and I was hoping to see some strong players from Manitoba which didn't happen. Without a doubt large prizes were an incentive as well.

I was one of the people who believed the Alberta Open should be either moved to Labour Day or prizes increased in order to even have a chance against the Prairie Open. I have now reevaluated my position and don't see how our tournament can be threatened by the "operation" from the east. After all we have things they don't, like more flexible organizers who are interested in propagating chess. Higher prizes or not, I don't intend to play in Saskatchewan again.

## ALBERTA CLUBS

### CALGARY CHESS CLUB

New Executive: President-Tedje Davies,  
Vice-president-Jim Daniluk,  
Secretary-Walter Watson,  
Treasurer-Farzan Nazarian  
Meets at Sandman Inn (Blackgold Room),  
7th Ave. and 8th St. SW,  
Tues 7:00 - 11:00

Contact: Tedje (277-0209),  
Walter (277-5620)  
mail to 302 - 312 - 6 Ave NE  
Calgary AB T2E 0L9

#### Schedule:

Oct 29: Grand Prix #1  
Nov 5 - Dec 17: Club Championship

### ALMOST UNDER 1800 CLUB

Meets: Word Books and Cappuccino Bar,  
1715 - 17 Ave. SW, Calgary, AB,  
during business hours.

Contact: Rook St. Peter (244-4239) or  
Tedje Davies (277-0209)

Tournament Schedule (starts 10 a.m.)  
Saturday November 2  
Saturday December 7

### EDMONTON CHESS CLUB

Meets: Prince Of Wales Armoury, Suite  
114A, 10440 - 108 Ave., Edmonton T5H 3Z9  
entrance at south west corner, open 7-11  
m.

Monday--casual chess tournaments, no  
membership required; relaxed noise  
controls

Thursday--CFC-rated tournaments, CFC  
membership required; strict noise controls.  
Info: club phone (424-0283); Kurt Lauterwald  
(434-7536). Mail: see club address above.

#### Schedule for Thursday tournaments:

Nov. 7 - Nov. 28: November Open  
Dec. 6 - Jan. 2: Year End Open  
Jan. 9 - Feb. 20: Edmonton Closed  
(winner qualifies for the Alberta Closed)

### GRANDE PRAIRIE CHESS CLUB

Meets: Royal Canadian Legion,  
9912-101 Ave, Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.  
(Sept. 1 - Apr. 30).

Info: Phil Lefkowitz (538-1903; mail: c/o 9905  
75 Ave, Grande Prairie T8V 6G2).

### NORTHERN COMMUNITIES CC

Info: Bernie Tynan (771-3757).

How about that, just enough room for a letter:

Dave Ottosen writes of T. Wilson - D. Hergott  
[ACR Vol.21, No.4]: "By the way, don't ask  
me the point of 3: ... b5. I don't know either."  
[The game began 1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Bc4 b5-  
-ed] I didn't know either, too, but now I do. I  
recall the game Hawkes - Milne, Calgary  
Closed 1994 which went: 1.g3 e5 2.Bg2 d5  
3.b4!? Black's best course of action in this

## JUNIOR CLUBS & TOURNAMENTS

See page 6 in the Junior Chess Section.

### MEDICINE HAT CHESS CLUB

Meets on Wednesdays 7-10:15, starting  
September 25, at Southview Community  
School, Coffee Corner room.  
Info: Bill Taylor (526-5484).

### PEACE RIVER CHESS CLUB

Meets: Peace Valley Inn (Rose Room), 9609-  
101 St. Sat. 9:00-4:00  
Dates: Call Todd.  
Info: Todd Seitz (624-3256). Mail: Bag 1200,  
Peace River T8S 1V1.

### NORTHWESTERN ALBERTA ACTIVE CHESS SOCIETY

#### La Crete

Meets: La Crete Public School  
Info: Keith Martin (928-2702)

#### High Level

Meets: High Level Public Library  
Info: High Level: Piotr Rajski (926-4658)

#### Fort Vermillion

Info: Theresa or Aung Zaw-Tun (927-3274)

#### Schedule:

Nov. 9: La Crete Popular Active  
Nov. 23: High Level CFC Rated Active  
Dec. 7: Fort Vermillion Popular Active  
Jan. 4: La Crete Popular Active  
Feb. 1: High Level CFC Rated Active  
Feb. 15: Fort Vermillion Popular Active  
Mar. 8: La Crete Popular Active  
Apr. 5: Fort Vermillion Popular Active  
Apr. 19-20: High Level CFC Rated Classic  
May 3: La Crete CFC Rated Active  
May 19: Victoria Day Simul, High Level  
(to be confirmed)  
May 31: Fort Vermillion Popular Active  
Jun 14: La Crete CFC Rated Active

### RED DEER JR & SR CC

Meet: Red Deer Public Library,  
Sun. 1:30-5:00  
Info: Neil Sharp (346-0420). Mail c/o 1512,  
4902-37 St., Red Deer T4N 6M9.

### RIMBEY CC

Info: Cameron McLean (843-3736).

analogous position is to ignore the b-pawn and  
carry on with straightforward development.  
The point of b4 (b5) is that the side that  
captures the b-pawn loses his d-pawn no matter  
what. Believe me, no matter what. According  
to conventional opening theory, a flank pawn  
isn't worth a centre pawn, so the exchange is  
favourable to the side pushing b4 (b5).  
(signed)  
Art Milne.

## UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

All tournaments require ACA and CFC  
membership (may be purchased on site)

### SOUTHERN ALBERTA OPEN

Where: Quality Inn, Motel Village  
2359 Banff Trail NW, Calgary  
When: November 23-24, 1996  
Format: 5 round Swiss, in 2 sections  
Contact: Grant Brown (381-0308)  
Entry: Adult \$20, Junior \$15, age 14 and  
under \$5 with "no prize" option.  
*Winner qualifies for the Alberta Closed*

### ALMOST CHRISTMAS OPEN

Where: Edmonton Chess Club, Prince of  
Wales Armoury, 104 Ave & 108 Str.  
When: December 21-22, 1996  
Format: 5 round Swiss  
Contact: Ford Wong (481-6474)  
Entry: Adult \$20, Junior \$15, age 14 and  
under \$5 with "no prize" option.  
Time Control: 40 moves/1 hour 50 min,  
then 15/30.

### TRUMPETER CLASSIC

Where: Trumpeter Inn, Grande Prairie  
When: January 18-19, 1996  
Contact: Phil Lefkowitz (538-1903)

### PEACE RIVER SPRING ACTIVE

When: March 22, 1996  
Contact: Todd Seitz (624-3256)

### STARDUST AUTUMN ACTIVE

Where: Stardust Motor Inn, High Level  
When: Nov. 23, 1996; registration 9:30.  
Format: Five round Active swiss in 2 sections.  
One section is CFC rated (requires  
CFC membership), other section is  
not.  
Entries: Adults \$15, Juniors \$8, both sections.  
All entry fees will be matched by the  
Stardust Motor Inn.  
Contact: Piotr Rajski 926-4658.  
Accommodation: Stardust Motor Inn,  
926-4222

### PEACE RIVER GRAND PRIX

Sept 28: Fall Active, Grande Prairie  
Contact Phil Lefkowitz 538-1903  
Oct. 26-27: Peace River Classic  
Contact Keith Lavalley 624-5232  
Nov. 23-24: Golden Harvest, Dawson Creek  
Contact Jim Kanester 604-782-5637  
Jan. 18-19: Trumpeter Classic, Grande Prairie  
Contact Phil Lefkowitz 538-1903  
Feb 22: Dawson Creek Spring Active  
Contact Jim Kanester 604-782-5637  
Mar. 22: Peace River Spring Active  
Contact Todd Seitz 624-3256

\$1.50 per player from each event goes into the  
prize fund. Contact Jim Kanester for more  
information 604-782-5637.